

second armature each defining an aperture for accommodating said second fastener therethrough; and

at least one protrusion coupled to said sole proximate said at least one recess, said at least one protrusion being configured to be coupled to said first tine and said second tine of said first armature and to said first tine and said second tine of said second armature when at least one of said first armature and said second armature being retained in said at least one recess of said sole, said at least one protrusion also being configured to retain at least one said first fastener and said second fastener and said first armature and said second armature.

#### REMARKS

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of Claims 6 and 7 (subject to being rewritten) is respectfully acknowledged with appreciation.

Accordingly, Claim 1 has been amended to include therein Claims 2, 4 and 6 (previously on file) to place Claim 1 into condition for allowance since amended Claim 1 is now in effect Claim 6 that the Examiner indicated was allowable. Claims 2, 4 and 6 have been cancelled. Method Claims 13-20 are also cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer in order to expedite the prosecution of the subject patent application. New Claim 21 has been added

which is drafted along the lines of amended Claim 1,  
however, new Claim 21 defines the patentable feature of the  
protrusion that is coupled to the sole and configured to be  
coupled to the first and second tines of the first and  
second armatures when at least one of these armatures is  
retained in the at least one recess of the sole. Claim 21  
further defines that the protrusion is also configured to  
retain the at least one said first fastener and said second  
fastener and the first armature and the second armature.

Accordingly, the allowance of the Claims now on file  
is respectfully solicited.

If there are any fees incurred by this Amendment  
Letter, please deduct them from our Deposit Account No. 23-  
0830.

Respectfully submitted,



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